10/629,323 HSJ920030016US3/(HITG.055PA) Amdt. Dated October 25, 2005 Reply to Office Action of July 25, 2005

DET 5/17/06

Replace the paragraph beginning at page &, line N with the following replacement paragraph.

Fig. 6a illustrates a self-pinned abutted junction head structure 600a prior to forming a hard bias/lead layer according to an embodiment of the present invention. As discussed in Fig. 5, a first film 610 may be deposited as a buffer layer onto a substrate 620, such as glass. However, the present invention is not limited to this substrate, for example, the substrate could also be semiconductor material or a ceramic material such as used for conventional sliders. A self pinned-layer 630 is formed on the buffer layer 610. The self-pinned layer has a first end 634, a second end 635 and a central region 636. A spacer layer 640, such as copper (Cu), may then be deposited onto the self pinned-layer 630. However, the present invention is not limited to Cu as a spacer layer 640. Next, as discussed in Fig. 5, a free layer 650 is formed on the spacer layer 640 and a capping layer 660 may be formed on the free layer 650.